Appendix "B"
Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

A. In the Title

METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR DETECTING SIGNALS IN BINDING ASSAYS USING MICROPARTICLES

B. In the Specification

Nucleic acid hybridization buffers that may be used include phosphate and TRIS buffers, for example, at a pH of about 6 to 8. In one embodiment, a standard saline phosphate ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid ("SSPE") buffer is used. An exemplary phosphate buffer includes: 0.06M H_2PO_4/HPO_4, 1M Na^+, 0.006M EDTA (ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid), 0.005% of the generic product octylphenol ethylene oxide condensate sold under [the trademark Triton® as described by Sigma Product number X-100] TRITON X-100, as described by Sigma, at a pH of about 6.8, referred to herein as "6XSSPE-T". In one preferred embodiment, in a nucleic acid hybridization assay, a sulfonate hybridization buffer is used, for example a buffer including 2-[N-morpholino]ethanesulfonic acid ("MES"). For example, the hybridization buffer may include about 0.01 M to about 2 M MES or more, *e.g.*, about 0.25 M MES, at a pH, for example, of about 6 to 7. In one embodiment, the MES buffer includes: 0.25M MES, 1M Na^+, and 0.005% of the generic product octylphenol ethylene oxide condensate sold under [the trademark Triton® as described by Sigma Product number X-100] TRITON X-100, as described by Sigma, at a pH of about 6.7. The hybridization may be conducted, for example, at about 25 to 70°C, for example, about 45°C. Optionally, the buffer may be filtered prior to use, for example, through a 2 [:]μm filter.